

## **Finance Committee**

Date: April 12, 2007

Place: Board of Selectmen's Room

Time: 7:00PM

Present: Mary Wickstrom, chairman, Mark Andrews, vice chairman, Peter Demers (8:25PM), Howard Fortner, Ed Maharay, Sandy Rice, Secretary

Absent: George Goulet

## **Agenda**

### Minutes

Motion to accept meeting minutes of March 29, 2007 with amendment correcting Rachael made by Howard/Mark, unanimous vote with Ed abstaining

Motion to accept meeting minutes of April 2, 2007 with amendment changing finance made by Howard/Mark, unanimous vote with Ed abstaining.

Motion to accept meeting minutes of April 5, 2007 made by Howard/Mark, unanimous vote with Ed abstaining

### Agenda Items

#### *Public Hearing*

Motion made by Mark/ to reopen the public hearing, unanimous vote with Ed abstaining.

#### Board of Health

Dave Genereaux presented overview of budget with Sue Smith in attendance. There is a difference of \$720. Health Agent has a line item for \$30,000. Mileage is for the health agent at 44.5 cents per mile. The Barns and Animal has a stipend of \$500.

#### Article #13 Joint recycling

This is the third year for Blackstone recycling. The cost has decreased to \$3,500 with a sticker price of \$10.

#### Article #14 Mosquito

Cost is about \$57,000 and assessment can come from the cherry sheet. 60% of towns have this service.

#### Article #15 Pay as you go trash.

This is an attempt to address recycling issues. Have to buy bags and then so much per month. Vote allows service to come in 2008 and then will need another vote to set up an enterprise account.

#### General Government

Debt. Debt figure is for gross debt. Borrowed for water tank in 2008, school land, lime salo, sidewalk plow and Taft roof.

County Retirement . Up 8.41%. The committee want number of non school employees.

Health Insurance. Up 12.75%. We are staying with current carriers. IAC is still looking at proposals.

Medicare. There will be 3 retirements from DPW.

#### Property and Liability

Workers Compensation. Deficit in this account.

Unemployment. Restored limit.

Medicaid Clerical. \$30,000 for this position. Receive \$160,000 in revenue. This is no longer under the school.

Overview. The deficit is \$1,622,910. Question asked is it a structural or systemic problem. Jill would like to go into town meeting with an unbalanced budget and try and get the town's feeling on the use of stabilization or an over ride. Hopefully can do a capital plan at the fall town meeting. The topic of a reverse summit was discussed.

Motion to continue the public hearing to April 17, 2007 made by Howard/Mark, unanimous vote.

#### Old Business

Received update from the school department.

#### New Business

Percentage increases for the town departments are: DPW 2%, Fire 2.5%, Town Hall 2%, Police 0%(to be negotiated).

School percentage increases. School FY08 8.8% includes steps and increases Teachers A 8.1%. custodian 5.5%, Secretaries 8.3%, paraprofessionals 1%

#### Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Howard/Mark, unanimous vote.